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USSR

Ref No: S/NBF/TL26

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PERMISSION REQUESTED FOR APPROACH TO "THE TRUST"
 FOR HELP IN COMBATING DESERTION FROM SOVIET SHIPS.

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No.: 1070

28 July 1944

To VIKTOR[i], SEMEN.

In reply to number 20. Apart from the measures taken through workers of the 5th Line to improve the provision of general attention for Soviet crews on the West Coast I request your permission to carry out the following:

1. Report on the position [D% of the crews] [3 groups unrecovered] KAPUSTIN[ii], who is deputising for STEPFATHER [OTCHIM][iii] and ask him to detach at once one or two workers of the TRUST [TREST][iv] in the ports for explanatory work among the crews and for taking steps to strengthen the giving of cultural and medical attention through the appropriate apparatuses of the STORE [MAGAZIN][v] in the ports.

2. Ask KAPUSTIN [4 groups unrecovered] renewal of their treaties with the ISLANDERS [OSTROVITYANE][vi] to take effective measures to return to their ships sailors who have defected, ~~who are~~ considered ~~deserters~~ [1 group unrecovered] ~~[to hand over] deserters~~. Please telegraph your consent. *under our laws in war-time.*

No. 601

MAY [MAJ][vii]

[Comments overleaf]

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- Comments: [i] VIKTOR: probably Lt.-General P.M. FITIN.
- [ii] Aleksandr Nikolaevich KAPUSTIN, Counsellor at the Soviet Embassy in WASHINGTON, D.C.
- [iii] OTChIM: Andrej Andreevich GROMYKO, Soviet Ambassador to the U.S.A.
- [iv] TREST: the Soviet Embassy.
- [v] MAGAZIN: the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission.
- [vi] OSTROVITYANE: the British.
- [vii] MAJ: Pavel Ivanovich FEDOSIMOV.
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S/NBF/T426